

**UNDER SECRETARY OF STATE FOR
ARMS CONTROL AND INTERNATIONAL SECURITY
WASHINGTON**

March 14, 2006

**MEMORANDUM FOR THE CHAIRMAN, ARMS CONTROL AND
NONPROLIFERATION ADVISORY BOARD (ACNAB)**

SUBJECT: Terms of Reference – ACNAB Study on Space Policy

The ACNAB is requested to undertake a study on the U.S. policy on outer space in the 21st century.

The last decades have seen a tremendous increase in global reliance on space-based assets for scientific, economic, communications and military applications. Although a large number of countries are increasing their reliance on space-based assets, the United States has, and for the foreseeable future will continue to have, the greatest stake in ensuring the unrestricted use of space. At the same time our reliance on space-based assets has increased, there has been increased advocacy from many in the international community to place additional restrictions on the use of space through international agreements and treaties. In some cases (e.g., internationally agreed allocation of frequencies of the electromagnetic spectrum) international agreements are in the interest of all nations. But increasingly there have been calls for additional agreements that would limit space activities in ways that are contrary to U.S. interests.

Given the ever-increasing need to expand our use of space and to maintain the security of space assets, it is in the U.S. interest to develop more effective international cooperation to support these requirements.

It would be of great assistance if the ACNAB review of current U.S. policy on use of outer space could examine and assess:

- The U.S. civilian and defense requirements for space-based assets in the first decades of the 21st century;
- The effectiveness of the current policies designed to protect planned and expected U.S. space activities and to prevent interference by other parties with space-based U.S. assets;

- The effectiveness of U.S. policies in countering efforts to restrict the use of space that would not serve the interests of the United States;
- The additional steps, both national and international, that could strengthen the United States position on the use of outer space;
- What, if any, diplomatic initiatives or international “rules of the road” would enhance the U.S. ability to protect and effectively use its space systems;
- Elements of an enhanced public diplomacy plan to educate both the U.S. public and the international community on the importance of space-based assets in the 21st century.

This study should be completed in 180 days. Completed work should be submitted to the office of the ACNAB Executive Directorate no later than October 1, 2006.

The Under Secretary of State for Arms Control and International Security will sponsor the study. The Assistant Secretary of State for Verification, Compliance and Implementation will support the study. Roy Pettis will serve as the Executive Secretary for the study and Matthew Zartman will represent the ACNAB Executive Directorate.

The study will operate in accordance with the provisions of P.L. 92-463, the "Federal Advisory Board Committee Act."

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Bob Joseph", is positioned above the printed name.

Robert G. Joseph